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REPORT NO. [redacted]

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia/Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT Czech Policy Regarding Treatment of German Minority

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SOURCE [redacted]

1. The following is a résumé of a letter written on 13 April 1950 by one Kadlcik, chairman of the ONV (District People's Committee) for Vitkov, and addressed to all People's Committees in the district. An information copy of this letter was sent to the DDR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The subject of the letter is "Association with Persons of German Nationality".

The Ministry of the Interior has informed this office that some People's Committees are not proceeding properly in regard to their political relationship with those Germans who have remained in Czechoslovakia. Frequently Czechs have not treated such persons on an equal basis, even though the latter are actively participating in the reconstruction of the country and very often are Czech citizens. Some of these persons proved their anti-fascist attitude even before the occupation. The People's Committees must realize that they are responsible for the enforcement of difficult official principles. In any case the Germans who have remained in the country are now relatively so few that they can no longer exercise an important influence on our political development. Any mistakes which the People's Committees commit in their policy toward these Germans or which they permit to continue are welcome opportunities for the reactionary opposition to utilize as propaganda. The People's Committees must therefore endeavor not to give them such opportunities and must on the contrary help in every way those Germans who honestly desire to settle here. For this reason, the Ministry of the Interior insists on the speedy processing of their requests for naturalization. It is necessary that in our people's democratic state no one, whether a citizen or stateless, suffer any disadvantages because of German nationality. With this in mind, the Ministry of the Interior instructs the People's Committees to allow persons of German nationality the full use of their homes, including furnishings, furniture, and appliances; to allow no one to break leases of such persons except for grounds other than German nationality; and to remove restrictions whereby such persons are not allowed to visit public restaurants, amusements, woods, parks, etc., and are not allowed to speak German in public.

(Signed) Kadlcik

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